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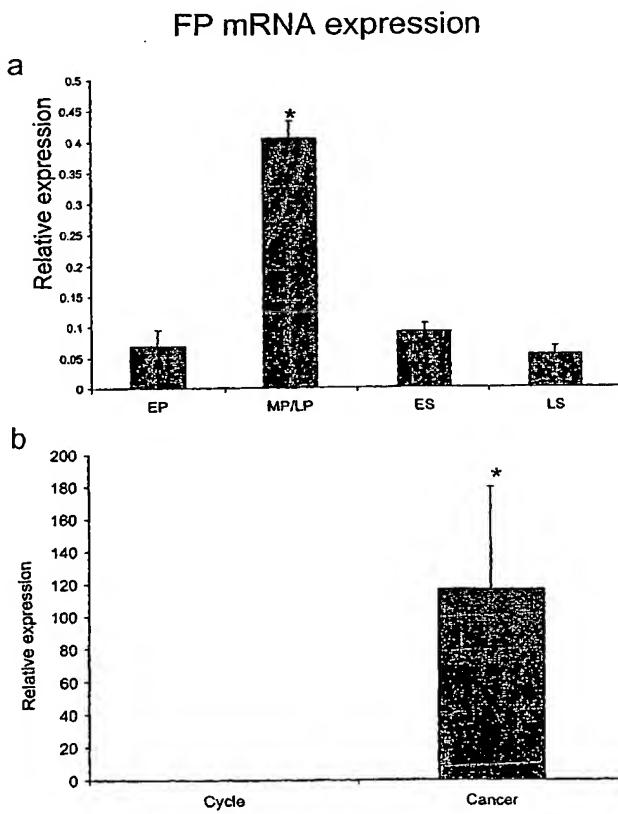
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FP RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS OR PGF2 ALPHA ANTAGONISTA FOR TREATING PATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS OF THE UTERUS



(57) Abstract: A method of treating or preventing a pathological condition of the uterus in a female individual, the method comprising administering to the individual at least one agent that prevents PGF_{2α}, having its effect on the FP receptor. Typically, the pathological condition is uterine cancer, fibroids or endometriosis.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte

rnational Application No

PCT/GB 03/01521

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7	A61K45/00	A61K45/06	A61K38/04	A61K38/16	A61K39/395
	A61P15/00	A61P35/00	A61K9/00		

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K A61P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data, SEQUENCE SEARCH

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ORLICKY D J ET AL: "A ROLE FOR PROSTAGLANDINS IN ESTROGEN GROWTH REGULATION" MEDICAL HYPOTHESES, vol. 25, no. 1, 1988, pages 1-6, XP008020403 ISSN: 0306-9877 part "Hypothesis" and "Conclusions" abstract ---	1-31
X	WO 00 17348 A (CHEMTOB SYLVAIN ;PERI KRISHNA G (CA); HOPITAL SAINTE JUSTINE (CA)) 30 March 2000 (2000-03-30) claims page 4, line 33 -page 6, line 9 ---	1,6-9, 14,19,21
Y		22-24
		-/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the international search report

8 August 2003

14/08/2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte
nal Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 955 575 A (POTIER MICHEL ET AL) 21 September 1999 (1999-09-21) claims column 2, line 23 - line 61 ---	1,6-9, 14,19,21 22-24
Y	US 5 912 006 A (ERLITZ MARC D ET AL) 15 June 1999 (1999-06-15) claims ---	22-24
Y	US 6 197 327 B1 (HARRISON DONALD C ET AL) 6 March 2001 (2001-03-06) claims ---	22-24
A	GRIFFIN B W ET AL: "AL-8810: A NOVEL PROSTAGLANDIN F 2ALPHA ANALOG WITH SELECTIVE ANTAGONIST EFFECTS AT THE PROSTAGLANDIN F 2ALPHA (FP) RECEPTOR" JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS, AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PHARMACOLOGY AND, US, vol. 290, no. 3, 1999, pages 1278-1284, XP000876534 ISSN: 0022-3565 the whole document ---	1-31
A	KITANAKA J-I ET AL: "PHLORETIN AS AN ANTAGONIST OF PROSTAGLANDIN F 2ALPHA RECEPTOR IN CULTURED RAT ASTROCYTES" JOURNAL OF NEUROCHEMISTRY, NEW YORK, NY, US, vol. 60, no. 2, February 1993 (1993-02), pages 704-708, XP000876615 ISSN: 0022-3042 the whole document ---	1-31
T	MILNE STUART A ET AL: "Prostaglandin (PG) F2alpha receptor expression and signaling in human endometrium: Role of PGF2alpha in epithelial cell proliferation." JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY & METABOLISM, vol. 88, no. 4, 20 April 2003 (2003-04-20), pages 1825-1832, XP000901513 ISSN: 0021-972X the whole document -----	1-31

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 03/01521

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-5, 12-24, 27-31 relate to a compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely to compositions and uses of an agent that prevents PGF2 alpha having its effect on the FP receptor. This definition is considered to be unclear under Article 6 PCT as it is not clear which is/are the effect/s of PGF2 alpha on the receptor which should be prevented.

The claims cover all compounds having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such products/compounds/methods/apparatus. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the product/compound/method/apparatus by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compounds defined in claims 6-11.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inte

rnal Application No

PCT/GB 03/01521

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0017348	A 30-03-2000	AU 5722499 A		10-04-2000
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